

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 094541

FOR USEEC

FOLLOWING REPEAT MOSCOW 7408 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BANGKOK,
BELGRADE, BERLIN, BONN, BUCHAREST, HONG KONG, HONOLULU,
LONDON, PARIS, PEKING, PRAGUE, ROME, SINGAPORE, SOFIA,
ORIPAI, TOKYO, USNATO, VIENTIANE, AND WARSAW DATED APRIL 11, 1978.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 07408

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CH, EEC, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET PROPAGANDA ATTACKS PRC ANTI-SOVIET
DIPLOMACY

REF: (A) MOSCOW 5333, (B) MOSCOW 2154, (C) MOSCOW 3580

SUMMARY: SOVIET ANTI-PRC PROPAGANDA HAS CLIMBED BACK TO
A HIGH LEVEL FOLLOWING SLIGHT LULL COINCIDING WITH CHINESE
NPC M-ETING. ARTICLES CRITICAL OF CHINA APPEAR DAILY IN
THE SOVIET CENTRAL PRESS. HIGH PRIORITY IS GIVEN TO
DENOUNCING CHINESE EFFORTS TO MOBILIZE A WORLD-WIDE ANTI-
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SOVIET FRONT. END SUMMARY.

1. PRAVDA APRIL 10 COMMENTARY ON PRC-EC TRADE AGREEMENT
SIGNING REPEATS SAME CRITICISM VOICED BY SOVIET PRESS
WHEN ACCORD WAS INITIALLED (REF B). ARTICLE HOLDS
THAT:

-- PRC-EC TRADE AGREEMENT IS VIEWED BY BOTH SIDES AS
A BRIDGE FOR CLOSER MILITARY COOPERATION BETWEEN NATO

AND PEKING. PEKING LEADERS SEE NATO AS THE "BACKBONE" FOR THE UNITED STRUGGLE AGAINST THE "SOCIALIST" COMMUNITY. ARTICLE CITES AP AS STATING THAT CHINESE ARE BEFRIENDING EC COUNTRIES BECAUSE LATTER ARE UNITED WITH THE U.S. AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION;
-- OFFICIAL EC REPRESENTATIVES "ADMIT" THAT PRC-EC TRADE AGREEMENT HAS POLITICAL AS WELL AS ECONOMIC SIGNIFICANCE;
-- PEKING IS PURSUING CLOSER TIES WITH THE WEST PRIMARILY TO ACQUIRE ACCESS TO NATO'S MILITARY TECHNOLOGY AND ITS ARMS MARKET. THE CHINESE ARE ALREADY PURCHASING WESTERN ARMS THROUGH SEPARATE MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL MONOPOLIES. IT IS "UNWISE" TO BELIEVE THAT CHINESE MILITARY MODERNIZATION THREATENS ONLY THE "SOCIALIST COUNTRIES."

2. THE VOLUME AND INTENSITY OF ANTI-CHINESE ATTACKS IN THE SOVIET MEDIA HAVE CLIMBED BACK TO THE HIGH LEVEL EXISTING BEFORE THE CHINESE NATIONAL PEOPLES CONGRESS (REF C), AND ARTICLES CRITICAL OF CHINA APPEAR DAILY IN THE SOVIET CENTRAL PRESS. FOLLOWING PRAVDA'S MARCH 20 DRAMATIZATION OF THE SUPREME SOVIET MESSAGE TO NPC (REF A), SOVIET PRESS HAS REPRINTED NUMEROUS ARTICLES FROM POLISH, BULGARIAN, CZECH, MONGOLIAN AND OTHER NEWSPAPERS REPRESENTING PRO-SOVIET VIEWS PRAISING THE SUPREME SOVIET "INITIATIVE" AND DENOUNCING CHINESE INTRANSIGENCE.
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3. AN INCREASING PERCENTAGE OF THE ANTI-CHINESE VERBIAGE IN THE SOVIET PRESS IS DIRECTED AT PEKING'S EFFORTS TO ORCHESTRATE A WORLD-WIDE ANTI-SOVIET UNITED FRONT. A LENGTHY SIGNED ARTICLE IN THE MARCH 1978 CPSU CC JOURNAL "KOMMUNIST" ACCUSES PEKING OF WEAKENING THE PROSPECTS FOR NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS BY JOINING FORCES WITH IMPERIALISM. ARTICLE ATTACKS PRC MOVES TO GENERATE OPPOSITION TO THE USSR IN WESTERN EUROPE, JAPAN AND ELSEWHERE, CRITICIZING AT LENGTH CHINESE THREE WORLD AND INEVITABILITY OF WAR THEORIES. APRIL, 1978 EDITION OF USA INSTITUTE JOURNAL "USA" CARRIES LENGTHY CRITIQUE OF U.S. POLICY IN THE PACIFIC WHICH REFERS TO POSSIBILITY OF U.S. USE OF THE "CHINA FACTOR" IN WASHINGTON'S RELATIONS WITH THE USSR. ARTICLE NOTES THAT "THE REALIZATION OF THE IDEA OF AMERICAN POLITICAL AND MILITARY FIGURES TO STRENGTHEN CHINESE MILITARY POTENTIAL WITH U.S. HELP" WOULD HAVE A "NEGATIVE EFFECT" ON THE SITUATION IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC.

4. APRIL 8 PRAVDA CARRIES APRIL 7 TASS ARTICLE DATED STOCKHOLM WHICH REPORTS ANTI-CHINESE ARTICLE

IN SWEDISH COMMUNIST PARTY NEWSPAPER "WORKER'S PARTY."
ARTICLE ATTACKS CHINA FOR ATTEMPTING TO ALIGN WITH
"REACTIONARY REGIMES" IN CHILE, SOUTH AFRICA, ISRAEL
AND THE FRG. ARTICLE CLAIMS THAT NATO IS READY TO
SUPPLY CHINA WITH MODERN WEAPONS AND THAT THE "HIGHEST
NATO CIRCLES" CALL CHINA NATO'S "SIXTEENTH MEMBER"
WHILE ASSIGNING CHINA THE ROLE OF NATO'S "FAREASTERN
FLANK." ARTICLE CHARGES PEKING WITH CAMPAIGNING
AGAINST THE "SOCIALIST" COMMUNITY, INCLUDING THE
SOVIET UNION, MONGOLIA AND VIETNAM, AND (IN A NOVEL
TWIST) ALLEGES THAT CHINA HAS TERRITORIAL CLAIMS
AGAINST ALL THREE OF THESE NEIGHBORS.
TOON UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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